SUBJECT No. 47.

Introduction of Science and Mathematics into the Maharani's and Maharaja's Colleges.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore University.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya.—We have colleges both in Bangalore and Mysore, but there is provision for Science only at the Central College, Bangalore. At least the B. A. course in Science may be opened in the two colleges.

Dewan.—All the Science courses are concentrated in Bangalore, and History, Literature and Philosophy are provided for in Mysore. Unless the two colleges are situated in one place it is not economical to open Science classes in Mysore, which means duplication of staff. In the present condition of finances it is not possible to do it.

Mr. R. Gopalaswami Iyer.—I am not in favour of the proposal; but I would request the Government to kindly see their way to open a University Entrance class in Science in the Vani Vilas Institute. There is very little scope and opportunity for girls to take up Science, and since there are no Science classes in the Maharani's College, girl students who wish to take up Science have to go to Madras. There is a system in the Queen Mary's College, Madras, for giving them conveyances to go to the colleges. The same facility should be given here as well for girls going to the Vani Vilas Institute. Girls after finishing their Entrance course may attend the Central College, and to these the Government should give all facilities by way of providing conveyances.

Mr. Abbas Khan.—Women's education is one of the important subjects and should be encouraged as far as possible. But I am of opinion that the present College classes in the Maharani's College may be abolished and the institution converted into a High School. The Government is spending more than Rs. 40,000 towards the College and the strength of the College classes does not justify this enormous expense. Girls who wish to continue their studies after the University Entrance standard can join either the Maharaja's or the Central College.

Dewan.—Is it your idea that the College classes should be abolished from the Maharani's College ?

Mr. Abbas Khan.—Since a large sum of money is spent on the College classes whose strength is very small, I am of opinion that they should be abolished.

Second Member of Council.—Will *ghosha* ladies also attend the College for men ?

Mr. Abbas Khan.—Even in Bangalore and Mysore girls attend the Maharaja's and Central Colleges. Women are now clamouring for franchise to sit in the various councils and I do not think there would be any objection for the girls to study with the boys. The Central College has got an up-to-date laboratory and if an Entrance class in Science is opened in the Vani Vilas Institute it would be a waste of public funds. I am of opinion that since there is a Science section in the Entrance class in the Government Collegiate High School, Bangalore, girls can very well go there.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya.—It seems to me as if the 25th Century has already come when Mr. Abbas Khan said the *ghosha* ladies may be allowed to study with male students. Even in the most civilised Western countries separate colleges are opened for women. The system as suggested by Mr. Abbas Khan will never be congenial to any one, and cannot therefore come into effect. My request is that at least B. A. Science standard may be opened in the two colleges situated in Mysore.

Dewan.—This is a question of funds, and until our finances improve these suggestions cannot be entertained.

SUBJECT No. 48.

Reduction of College fees.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore University.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya.—In our Colleges and High Schools, fees are very heavy and consequently many cannot acquire higher education. In some of the colleges in Western countries no fees are levied. Their idea of opening college classes is to impart education free so that it may widely spread. It should be the aim of the Government to spread education throughout the State and they can achieve this object only by abolishing fees in all the Colleges and High Schools. If this is not practicable, at least these fees may be reduced by half. It was the ardent wish of our late beloved Maharaja Sri Chamarajendra Wodeyar to give free education to the people. The Government should consider whether the masses are in a position to pay high fees. It is a known fact that most of the people are very poor. I therefore request that fees in Colleges and High Schools may be reduced by half.

Dewan.—The present rates of fees in Colleges and High Schools are very low when compared to those prevailing elsewhere. The proposal therefore cannot be favourably considered at present.

SUBJECT No. 49.

Control over High Schools.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore University.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya.—According to the present arrangement, all the High Schools are under the control of the Education Department and Colleges under the University. Though all those who pass the School Final course do not continue their studies, yet there are many who continue further. The Department is capable of prescribing various curricula, courses, etc., but the University should generally lay the foundation from the IV Form. The foundation should be laid on solid basis and only the University can do it. I have consulted some of the members of the University Council and most of them are agreeable to this proposal.

Mr. R. Gopalswami Iyer.—The Madras University has been in existence for the last sixty-four years, and they have not on any occasion suggested the abolition of the post of the Director of Public Instruction. It is only about four years since the Mysore University came into existence, and it is rather surprising to find that the University has no objection to abolish the post of Inspector-General of Education and transfer the control over education in all grades to them. Primary education is a very big matter, and if a solid foundation should be given, it should be given from the very outset. There is no use in giving a superficial foundation in the High School classes. Primary class is the foundation, High School the structure and College class the superstructure. A successful Vice-Chancellor may prove an utter failure as an administrator. University education is very costly and unless the University can find funds to maintain all these classes, there would be absolutely no use in transferring these schools to them. I therefore oppose the proposal.

Mr. G. Paramasivaiya.—Even the Calcutta University Commission have recommended that the University should have no control over the Primary and High Schools. If the University is competent enough to find sufficient funds and maintain them I have no objection to the control over the Education Department being transferred to the University.